

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 ICA-11
TRSE-00 SOE-02 DOE-15 CIAE-00 COME-00 EA-10 /059 W
-----113476 161647Z /42

R 161508Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1550
INFO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 15451

USOECD

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: ESTC, COCOM
SUBJECT: REPORT ON MULTILATERAL COORDINATION
OF EXPORT CONTROLS

REF: (A) PRAGUE 1186, (B) PARIS 9154 (NOTAL), (B) PARIS
5419 (NOTAL)

1. USDEL DOUBTS THAT UK AUTHORITIES WOULD SUPPORT ANY
US EFFORTS TO DECLASSIFY COCOM PROCEDURE DOCUMENTS AND
BELIEVES THAT IMPRESSION MAJAK RECEIVED REGARDING THE
UK PUBLICATION OF SUCH PROCEDURES IS ERRONEOUS. (UKDEL
STATED THAT HE IS SURE HIS GOVERNMENT HAS NOT PUBLISHED
ANY COCOM PROCEDURE DOCUMENTS.) DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL
UKDEL LETTER (REF B) WHICH WAS IN RESPONSE TO INFORMAL
INQUIRY BY USDEL IN FEBRUARY 1978 REGARDING THE ADVISA-
BILITY OF DECLASSIFYING THE COCOM EMBARGO LIST, THE
STRATEGIC CRITERIA, LIST REVIEW AND EXCEPTION REQUEST
PROCEDURES AND THE RESULTS OF THE LIST REVIEWS. THE
UK DEL STATED IN THAT LETTER THAT "MY AUTHORITIES HAVE
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CONCLUDED THAT THEIR POSITION IS ONE OF STRONG OPPO-
SITION TO THE SUGGESTION THAT THE VARIOUS COCOM DOCU-
MENTS BE DECLASSIFIED." THE FRENCH, JAPANESE,
GERMAN, ITALIAN AND DUTCH DELEGATES ALSO REACTED NEGA-
TIVELY TO THE IDEA OF DECLASSIFYING THE COCOM DOCUMENTS
MENTIONED ABOVE (REF C). SUBSEQUENT TO REF C THE
ITALIAN DEL ALSO CONFIRMED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES

WERE DEFINITELY OPPOSED TO THE RELEASE OF THOSE COCOM DOCUMENTS.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION RAISED PARA 3(A), REF A, USDEL WISHES TO POINT OUT THAT COCOM DOCUMENTS ARE JOINTLY CLASSIFIED BY ALL COCOM MEMBERS AND THAT IT HAS BEEN COMMITTEE PRACTICE TO REQUIRE COCOM APPROVAL FOR THE RELEASE OF COCOM DOCUMENTS TO THIRD PARTIES OR FOR PUBLICATION. (SEE COCOM DOC. SEC. (75) 6 AND COCOM DOC. SEC. (77) 6.) GIVEN THE STRONG OPPOSITION ALREADY EXPRESSED BY MOST OF THE OTHER MEMBERS TO THE DECLASSIFICATION OF THE COCOM DOCUMENTS, USDEL SERIOUSLY DOUBTS COMMITTEE WOULD AGREE TO PERMIT THE PUBLICATION OF THE COCOM LIST AND PROCEDURES BY THE U.S. CONGRESS. UNILATERAL PUBLICATION OF THE COCOM LIST AND PROCEDURES BY THE UNITED STATES WOULD OF COURSE BE SERIOUSLY VIEWED BY THE OTHER MEMBERS NOT ONLY AS A VIOLATION OF U.S. COCOM OBLIGATIONS BUT ALSO VERY LIKELY AS A FLAGRANT DISREGARD OF THEIR INTERESTS. THE OTHER MEMBERS HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF COCOM REMAINS ESSENTIAL FOR THEIR CONTIN-

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R 161508Z MAY 78
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1551
INFO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 15451

UED PARTICIPATION IN THIS INFORMAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE WHICH IS NOT THE SUBJECT OF ANY INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT. THE IMPACT OF A UNILATERAL ACT OF THIS KIND WOULD BE PARTICULARLY SERIOUS NOW SINCE SEVERAL OF THE OTHER MEMBERS HAVE, IN RESPONSE TO THE INQUIRIES BY USDEL, ALREADY STATED THEIR STRONG

OPPOSITION TO THE DECLASSIFICATION OF THE COCOM LIST
AND PROCEDURES.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE QUESTION IN PARA 3(B), REF A,
USDEL SEES NO PROBLEM IN INCLUDING ANY OF THE COCOM
DOCUMENTS IN A CLASSIFIED REPORT TO CONGRESS SO LONG
AS THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THOSE DOCUMENTS WOULD BE
MAINTAINED. THE COCOM LIST AND THE PROCEDURAL DOCU-
MENTS COULD THUS BE INCLUDED TO THE APPROPRIATE
SECTIONS OF THAT REPORT. THERE WOULD ALSO BE NO NEED
TO CUT OUT THE INFORMATION PERTAINING TO SPECIFIC
COCOM COUNTRIES IN THE AIRGRAM ASSESSMENT OF THE 1977
EXCEPTION REQUESTS (PARIS A-22), IF THIS AIRGRAM IS TO
BE USED AS PART OF THE REPORT. AS SUGGESTED ON PAGE 3
OF JANUARY 18 ROOT LETTER TO BEACHNER, THE STRATEGIC
CRITERIA AND A DESCRIPTION OF THE SUCCESSFUL U.S.
EFFORTS TO REVISE THEM COULD BE USED IN THE SECTION ON
IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF MULTILATERAL EXPORT
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CONTROLS. IF THE DEPARTMENT INTENDS TO INCLUDE THE
VIEWS OF OTHER COCOM MEMBERS IN A CLASSIFIED REPORT
AS SUGGESTED BY MAJAK, IT MAY WISH TO DRAW ON THE
RECORDS OF DISCUSSION OF THE OCTOBER AND DECEMBER 1977
CRITERIA NEGOTIATIONS--THE MOST RECENT OCCASION ON
WHICH THE OTHERMEMBER GOVERNMENTS EXPRESSED VIEWS ON
COCOM'S OVERALL OPERATIONS AND PROBLEMS.KATZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: REPORTS, POLICIES, EXPORT CONTROLS
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